

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 /104 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4869

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2589

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, CU, RQ, UN

SUBJECT: UN COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24): PUERTO RICO

REF: A. STATE 190667; B. USUN 2558; C. USUN 2541

(NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: MISOFF HAS PROVIDED C-24 VICE CHAIRMAN VRAALSEN SUGGESTED CONSENSUS STATEMENT ON PUERTO RICO (PARA 2, REF A). MISOFF EMPHASIZED TO VRAALSEON THAT, IF CONSENSUS AGREEMENT REACHED IN C-24, WE WOULD EXPECT COMMITMENT FROM CUBANS NOT TO RAISE PUERTO RICO FORMALLY IN UNGA. VRAALSEON HAS SUBSEQUENTLY GOTTEN THIS COMMITMENT FROM CUBAN MISOFF SALADO. REGARDING C-24 CONSENSUS AGREEMENT, VRAALSEON REPORTS SALADO EXPRESSING PREFERENCE FOR RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD INCORPORATE POINTS IN DRAFT RESOLUTION AS SUPPLIED VRAALSEON EARLIER BY CUBANS (PARA 5, REF B) BUT OMITTING OPERATIVE PARAS 2, 4, AND 5 CONCERNING TRANSFER OF US POWERS TO PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO, A VISITING MISSION, AND RELEASE OF FIVE IMPRISONED PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS. VRAALSEN WILL WORK AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR STATEMENT BY C-24 CHAIRMAN RATHER THAN RESOLUTION. CUBANS HAVE TOLD VRAALSEON THAT COMMUNIST

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STATES ON C-24 ARE NOT EXPECTED TO SPEAK BUT THAT SOME NONALIGNED MEMBERS WILL DO SO. TOTAL OF PETITIONERS NOW 23. VRAALSEON WILL BE IN CHAIR WHEN COMMITTEE TAKES UP PUERTO RICO AM SEPTEMBER 15. END SUMMARY.

2. VRAALSEON CONSIDERED THAT DEPARTMENT'S SUGGESTED CONSENSUS STATEMENT WOULD NEED SOME AMENDMENT FOR IT TO PROVE ACCEPTABLE.

IN PARTICULAR, HE JUDGED THAT REFERENCE TO SIX PERCENT VOTE GAINED BY PRO-INDEPENDENCE PARTIES IN NOVEMBER 1976 ELECTION WOULD REQUIRE DELETION AND THAT THERE WOULD NEED TO BE REFERENCE TO THE RIGHT OF PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE TO PURSUE ITS SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS EXPLOITATION OF ITS RESOURCES SO AS TO RECOGNIZE CONCEPTS IN OPERATIVE PARA 3 OF DRAFT TEXT GIVEN VRAALSEON BY CUBANS (REF B). VRAALSEN NOTED THAT SIMILAR LANGUAGE WAS CONTAINED IN 1976 CONSENSUS STATEMENT. VRAALSEN, EXPECTS TO GET DOWN TO SERIOUS NEGOTIATION AFTER CUBA'S AMB ALARCON RETURNS TO NEW YORK THIS WEEKEND. C-24 CHAIRMAN SALIM (TANZANIA) EXPECTED RETURN TO NEW YORK IN TIME TO CHAIR DEBATE AUGUST 16 AND 17.

3. VRAALSEN HAS CONTINUED TO DETECT NO EAGERNESS ON PART OF CUBANS OR OTHERS ON C-24 TO GET INTO VOTING SITUATION. HE SAID THERE WAS "100 PERCENT" C-24 SUPPORT FOR A CONSENSUS SOLUTION. VRAALSEN ADDED CUBANS SAY THEY ARE SPEAKING IN C-24 ONLY BECAUSE THEY FEEL THEY MUST. CUBAN SPEECH EXPECTED TO INCLUDE CRITICISM OF RAPPORTEUR'S GENERALLY WELL-BALANCED REPORT.

4. VRAALSEN HAS ASKED THAT US LEAVE FOCUS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN HIS HANDS. HE BELIEVES THAT POSSIBILITIES FOR SUCCESS WILL BE ENHANCED IF NUMBER OF PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED
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WITH NEGOTIATIONS IS LIMITED. MISOFF EMPHASIZED TO VRAALSEON THAT CONSENSUS STATEMENT BY C-24 CHAIRMAN PREFERABLE TO RESOLUTION. VRAALSEON AGREED AND SAID HE WOULD DO HIS BEST TO BET STATEMENT. IN ANY EVENT, HE BELIEVED HE COULD GET RESOLUTION OF VERY SIMILAR CONTENT.

5. LIST OF ADDITIONAL PETITIONERS FOLLOWS:

1. PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY;
 2. MARUICE A. FERRE, MAYOR OF MIAMI;
 3. GRAN LOGIA NACIONAL DE PUERTO RICO;
 4. NATIONALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO;
 5. ISABEL ROSADO (INDIVIDUAL);
 6. PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY.
- LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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